

Attorney Docket No. 15444A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION FOR REISSUE APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare, of my own knowledge or on information and belief, that:

My residence, post office address and country of citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is described and claimed in U.S. Patent No. 5,785,557, granted July 28, 1998, and for which a reissue patent is sought on the invention entitled

**ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR WITH PROTECTION FOR
ELECTRICAL CONTACTS**

the specification of which was filed on July 28, 2000, as reissue application number 09/628,669, and was amended on September 24, 2001; March 13, 2002; September 23, 2002; June 1, 2004; December 10, 2004; and February 14, 2005.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I verily believe the original patent to be wholly or partly inoperative or invalid by reason of claiming less than I had the right to claim in the patent. In particular, the claims contain excess limitations not necessary for patentability. For example, at least one error in the prior patent is that the claims contain excess limitations concerning wiping surfaces on the housing not necessary for distinguishing over the prior art. Also, the claims fail to cover embodiments of the invention as claimed in the above-identified application for reissue. For example, the claims fail to cover mateable electrical connectors comprising a first and a second electrical connector having mateable signal contacts and at least one first power contact mateable with at least one second power contact, the first power contact having opposed contact fingers extending from a first body portion and the second power contact having opposed contact surfaces, wherein the opposed contact fingers of the first power contact are received between the opposed contact surfaces of the second power contact such that the contact fingers resiliently deflect inwardly and exert pressure on the opposed contact surfaces.

I attest that all errors corrected in this reissue application up to the time of signing of this declaration, or errors which are being corrected by a paper filed concurrently with this declaration which correction of errors I have reviewed, arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant.

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I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56. That is, I acknowledge that a patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest; that the public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. I acknowledge that, as an inventor and an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application, I have a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to me to be material to patentability. I acknowledge that this duty exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or until the application becomes abandoned. I further acknowledge that the duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by regulation. However, I recognize that no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. I further acknowledge that the Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

I acknowledge that information is considered to be material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and it establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or it refutes, or is inconsistent with a position the applicant takes in opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or asserting an argument of patentability. A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 USC §120 of the prior application identified below, this application being a continuation-in-part of the following prior application:

U.S. Serial No: 08/005,690
U.S. Filing Date: January 19, 1993
Issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,295,843

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements

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were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under 18 USC §1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, or any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed.

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Full Name of First Inventor


Inventor's Signature

11-29-05
Date

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